

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for facilitating installation of peripheral device firmware, the
2 method comprising:
3 transmitting a firmware availability notification;
4 receiving a firmware download request; and
5 transmitting a firmware file to a peripheral device for installation on the
6 peripheral device.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting a firmware availability
2 notification comprises transmitting a notification to the peripheral device.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting a firmware availability
2 notification comprises transmitting an email message to the user.

1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein transmitting an email message to a
2 user comprises transmitting a link to a network page at which firmware download can
3 be requested.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving a firmware download
2 request comprises receiving a firmware download request transmitted by a peripheral
3 device.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting a firmware file comprises
2 transmitting a remote firmware update (RFU) file to the peripheral device.

1 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising registering a peripheral
2 device with a firmware service and determining whether to transmit a firmware
3 availability notification based upon information that was collected through peripheral
4 device registration.

1 8. A system for facilitating installation of peripheral device firmware, the
2 system comprising:

3 means for transmitting a notification to a device indicating that new firmware
4 is available for installation;

5 means for receiving a firmware download request; and

6 means for transmitting a firmware file directly to a peripheral device.

1 9. The system of claim 8, wherein the means for transmitting a
2 notification comprise means for transmitting a notification to a peripheral device.

1 10. The system of claim 8, wherein the means for transmitting a
2 notification comprise means for transmitting an email message to a user, the email
3 message including a link to a network page at which firmware download can be
4 requested.

1 11. The system of claim 8, wherein the means for transmitting a firmware
2 file comprise means for transmitting a remote firmware update (RFU) file to the
3 peripheral device.

1 12. The system of claim 8, further comprising means for registering a
2 peripheral device with a firmware service.

1 13. A method for facilitating installation of firmware on a peripheral
2 device, the method comprising:
3 a peripheral device receiving a firmware availability notification; and
4 the peripheral device providing a related notification to a user.

1 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the peripheral device providing a
2 related notification to a user comprises the peripheral device posting a notification on
3 a network page using a network server embedded in the peripheral device.

1 15. The method of claim 13, wherein the peripheral device providing a
2 related notification to a user comprises the peripheral device transmitting a message to
3 a user computing device.

1 16. The method of claim 13, wherein the peripheral device providing a
2 related notification to a user comprises the peripheral device displaying a notification.

1 17. The method of claim 13, further comprising the peripheral device
2 receiving a request to install available firmware.

1 18. The method of claim 17, further comprising the peripheral device
2 transmitting a firmware download request to a firmware service.

1 19. The method of claim 18, further comprising the peripheral device
2 receiving a firmware file and installing the firmware file on the peripheral device.

1 20. A system for facilitating installation of firmware on a peripheral
2 device, the system comprising:

3 means provided on a peripheral device for receiving a notification from a
4 firmware service that new peripheral device firmware is available for download; and

5 means provided on the peripheral device for providing a related notification to
6 a device user.

1 21. The system of claim 20, wherein the means for providing a related
2 notification comprise an embedded network server that is configured to post a
3 notification on a network page.

1 22. The system of claim 20, wherein the means for providing a related
2 notification comprise means for transmitting a message to a user computing device
3 from the peripheral device.

1 23. The system of claim 20, wherein the means for providing a related
2 notification comprise means for displaying a notification in a display of the peripheral
3 device.

1 24. The system of claim 20, further comprising means for receiving and
2 installing a firmware file on the peripheral device.

1 25. A firmware service stored on a computer-readable medium, the service
2 comprising:

3 logic configured to transmit firmware availability notifications directly to
4 peripheral devices;

5 logic configured to receive firmware download requests from the peripheral
6 devices; and

7 logic configured to transmit firmware files to the peripheral devices.

1 26. The service of claim 25, wherein the logic configured to transmit
2 firmware files comprises logic configured to transmit remote firmware update (RFU)
3 files to the peripheral devices.

1 27. The service of claim 25, further comprising logic configured to register
2 peripheral devices with the firmware service.

1 28. The service of claim 27, further comprising logic configured to
2 determine whether to transmit firmware availability notifications based upon collected
3 peripheral device registration information.

1 29. A peripheral device, comprising:
2 logic configured to directly receive firmware availability notifications that are
3 transmitted by a firmware service via a network; and
4 logic configured to provide related notifications to a user.

1 30. The device of claim 29, wherein the logic configured to provide related
2 notifications comprises an embedded network server that is configured to post
3 notifications on network pages accessible via a network browser.

1 31. The device of claim 29, wherein the logic configured to provide related
2 notifications comprises logic configured to transmit email messages to a user
3 computing device that indicate that firmware is available for installation.

1 32. The device of claim 29, further comprising a display and wherein the
2 logic configured to provide related notifications comprises logic configured to present
3 notifications in the display.

1 33. The device of claim 29, further comprising logic configured to receive
2 a firmware installation request and logic configured to transmit a firmware download
3 request to the firmware service.

- 1 34. The device of claim 33, further comprising logic configured to receive
- 2 and install firmware files.